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~~20.~~ 20. An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said predetermined circuit includes a camera circuit.

21. An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said predetermined circuit includes an image pickup device.--.

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application Claims 1-21, with Claims 1, 7, 12 and 18 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended and Claims 12-21 are newly-presented.

The specification has been amended to correct various grammatical informalities. Favorable consideration is requested.

The newly-added Claims 12-21 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection. Support for the newly-presented claims may be found, for example, on page 5, line 2, et. seq., of the specification. No new matter has been added.

In the Official Action dated September 14, 1999, Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,594,672 (Hicks). Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hicks in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,475,441 (Parulski, et al.). Claims 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hicks in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,438,359 (Aoki). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of Claims 1-11 over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 1 and 7 have been amended even more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application, for example, at page 5, line 2, et. seq. No new matter has been added.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a peripheral apparatus which can be connected to a computer apparatus. The detection means detects the voltage level of a signal line connected to the personal computer. The power supply control means controls the supply of electric power from the power source to the predetermined circuit in accordance with the output of the detecting means. The discriminating means determines whether or not a communication request for a predetermined procedure has been received from the personal computer after the electric power of the power source was supplied to the predetermined circuit by the power supply control means. The discriminating means also detects the voltage level of the signal line connected to the personal computer and is powered by the personal computer via the

same signal line. The control means allows the supply of electric power from the power supply to continue once the discriminating means discriminates the presence of the communication request.

Independent Claim 7 is directed to a camera which can be connected to a computer apparatus. The recording means records a photographed image. The detecting means detects a level of a data line which is connected to a personal computer. The discriminating means judges whether or not an input signal is a predetermined command from the personal computer. The discriminating means also detects the voltage level of the data line connected to the personal computer and is powered by the personal computer via the same data line. The image output means outputs image data recorded by the recording means to the personal computer. The control means starts the supply of electric power to the recording means and the image output means according to the detected result of the detecting means, and then controls the supply of the electric power according to the discrimination result of the discriminating means so as to continue the supply of electric power once the predetermined command is discriminated by the discriminating means, and to stop in the case where the predetermined command is not discriminated by the discriminating means.

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to recite more clearly that the discrimination means detects the voltage level of the signal line (same data line in Claim 7) connected to the personal computer and is powered by the personal computer via the same signal line (same data line in Claim 7).

As understood by Applicant, Hicks teaches a power saving device arranged between, and connected to, both a host computer and a peripheral device. When the power saving device detects data present at the output port of the host computer, the power saving device supplies power to the peripheral device thereby allowing the peripheral device to receive the data (see, col. 4, line 50 to col. 4, line 5). Power to the peripheral device is turned off when data has not been detected at the output port of the host device for a predetermined period of time (see, col. 1, lines 65-67). Therefore, the power saving device of Hicks must itself be powered at all times in order to detect whether or not the host computer has data to be sent to the peripheral device. In Hicks, power is supplied to power saver 17 through power source code 4 which is separated from data line 13 connected to personal computer 1.

Hicks is distinguishable from Applicant's invention at least because nothing is found in Hicks to teach or suggest that the discriminating means that detects the voltage level of the signal line (data line in Claim 7) connected to the personal

computer is powered by the personal computer via the same signal line (same data line in Claim 7).

In response to paragraph 3 of the Official Action, please note that the claimed detecting means corresponds to a circuit connected to an input of an element 16 shown in Figure 2, for example, and the claimed power supply control means corresponds to a controller 10. Moreover, the claimed discriminating means corresponds to the element 16, for example.

Further, as understood by Applicant and as stated in the Official Action in paragraphs 6 and 7, both Parulski, et al. and Aoki merely teach a camera that can be connected to a personal computer. However, neither Parulski, et al. nor Aoki, either taken separately or in combination with Hicks, teaches or suggests the implementation of power saving in a camera as recited in Applicant's invention. Therefore, these references fail to remedy the above-mentioned deficiencies of Hicks as a reference against the independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

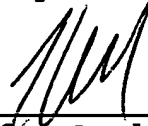
For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 1 and 7 are allowable over the cited art. Newly-presented independent Claims 12 and 18 recite similar features to independent Claims 1 and 7 and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Dependent Claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-17, and 19-

21 depend from independent Claims 1, 7, 12, and 18, respectively, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recite additional features in combination with the features of their respective independent claims and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action and submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and early passage to issue of the present application earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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